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[Signature]  
Signature

Steven E. Welch  
Printed Name

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Lofton-Day and Ebert

International Filing Date: June 23, 2004

Application No.:

For: METHODS AND NUCLEIC ACIDS FOR THE ANALYSIS OF COLORECTAL CELL  
PROLIFERATIVE DISORDERS

Docket: 47675-165

Date: December 23, 2005

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, kindly amend the above-identified application as

follows: